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ACTION DHA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 MCT-01 SCS-03
H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CU-04 /054 W
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O R 072210Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2130
INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR DTG AND FILING TIME)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, AR
SUBJECT: DEUTSCH FAMILY DETENTION

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6629

1. FONOFF OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT DEUTSCH FAMILY IS BEING DETAINED IN CORDOBA BY THIRD ARMY COMMAND.

2. FONOFF INDICATED THAT THERE ARE THREE CHARGES BEING INVESTIGATED REGARDING FAMILY MEMBERS: (A) FAMILY MEMBERS ARE SUSPECTED OF BELONGING TO PROSCRIBED PARTIDO COMUNISTA REVOLUCIONARIO (PCR). (B) FAMILY MEMBERS ALSO SUSPECTED OF PROSELYTIZING FOR PCR. (C) FAMILY MEMBERS ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR PRESUMED "CONNECTION WITH SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES." NO FURTHER DETAILS WERE PROVIDED.

3. FONOFF OFFICIALS UNDERSCORED FACT THAT MEMBERSHIP IN PCR IS PROHIBITED UNDER ARGENTINE LAW AND ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT FAMILY WAS BEING HELD FOR "INVESTIGATION"

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OF "PRESUMED" CRIMINAL ACTIONS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENTS. ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HANDLING OF OUR INQUIRY REGARDING THE DEUTSCH FAMILY REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLE

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SPR~~
Change to _____
(Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526 25x ()()
Declassify after _____
With concurrence of _____
IPS by *[Signature]* obtained _____ not obt.
Date *21-10*

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DEPARTURE FROM HANDLING OF SIMILAR CASES, JUST AS LAST NIGHT'S PUBLISHED NOTICE BY THE ARMY OF THE DEUTSCH FAMILY ARREST WAS A RARE INSTANCE OF THE ARMY'S "GOING PUBLIC" WITH AN ARREST NOTICE AND THE REASON FOR THE ARREST'S BEING MADE. PERSONS IN JEWISH COMMUNITY HERE WHO KNOW DEUTSCH FAMILY ARE SURPRISED AND DUBIOUS THAT PARENTS MIGHT HAVE BECOME INVOLVED WITH SUCH AN ENTITY AS THE PCR -- A MAOIST SPLITTER GROUP OF THE ARGENTINE COMMUNIST PARTY. THEY ADMIT HOWEVER POSSIBILITY THAT DAUGHTERS MIGHT BE LINKED IN SOME WAY TO POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. AS FOR THE GENERAL SITUATION IN CORDOBA AND COUNTER TERRORIST EFFORTS THERE, CONSENSUS IS THAT THE THIRD CORPS TOUGH AND WELL COORDINATED, AND THAT ITS EFFORTS WERE EXTREMELY VIGOROUS. MORE RECENTLY HOWEVER CORDOBA HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS "QUIET," ITS ANTI-GOVERNMENT ELEMENTS HAVING BEEN BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL. EMBASSY HAS HEARD DIRECTLY OF DISAPPEARANCES IN CORDOBA: FOUR FROM 1976, TWO FROM 1977. DURING AUGUST 1977 VISIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATOR DERIAN TWO STUDENTS FROM UNIVERSITY OF CORDOBA MET WITH HER AND ASSERTED HOWEVER THAT "DOZENS" OF STUDENTS HAD DISAPPEARED.

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